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R 301439Z AUG 72
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6448
INFO RUESHL/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 307
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1935
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1589
BT
UNCLAS VIENNA 6081

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SUBJ: AUSTRIAN WRITER BLAMES SOVIETS FOR SALT MOVE TO GENEVA

INDEPENDENT WOCHENPRESS, AUGUST 30, 1972, CARRIED ARTICLE BY GENEVA CORRESPONDENT TO EFFECT THAT PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON TRANSFER OF SALT FROM VIENNA AND HELSINKI TO GENEVA DID NOT TELL FULL TRUTH. "FACT IS THAT AMERICANS PROPOSED TRANSFER OF ENTIRE CONFERENCE TO VIENNA IN VIEW OF SELECTION OF HELSINKI AS SITE OF PROJECTED EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE, BUT RUSSIANS REJECTED THIS CATEGORICALLY". ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, RUSSIANS COMPLAINED ABOUT VIENNA CLIMATE, UNSATISFACTORY HOUSING, AND BAD WORKING CONDITIONS. "IN PRIVATE TALKS, THEY INDICATED THAT THERE ARE ALSO POLITICAL OBJECTIONS TO VIENNA. THEY SAID THAT GOODWILL BY WHICH VIENNA WON CONFERENCE THREE YEARS AGO WAS NOW EXHAUSTED. AFTER SIGNING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN VIENNA AND USSR, USSR HAS NO MORE INTEREST IN UPGRADING AUSTRIA INTERNATIONALLY AT PRESENT TIME". FORD

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